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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/707,574	12/22/2003	Gerard H. ROUSSEAU	117424	1573
27074	7590	06/28/2005	EXAMINER	
OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC. P.O. BOX 19928 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320			COLILLA, DANIEL JAMES	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2854	

DATE MAILED: 06/28/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/707,574

Applicant(s)

ROUSSEAU ET AL.

Examiner

Daniel J. Colilla

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 January 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2,6-8,12-14,16,17,19 and 20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-5,9,10,15 and 18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 2,6-8,11-14,16,17,19 and 20 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 December 2003 and 27 January 2005 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>12/22/03</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 11 is objected to because of the following informalities: the term “distal end” in claim 11 is unclear because applicant has not defined which end of the shield is distal.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

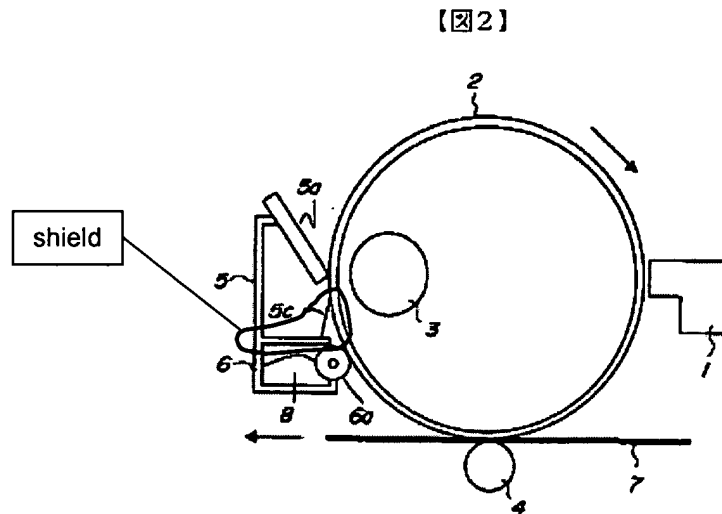
2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 15 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Arai (JP 2002-283546).

With respect to claim 1, Arai discloses a drum maintenance unit including a casing 5, an oiling roller 5b housed within the casing 5, a metering blade 5a at least partially housed in the casing an spaced from the oiling roller 6a and a shield formed by element 5c and a horizontal portion disposed between the oiling roller and the metering blade 5a as shown below in the Figure taken from Figure 2 of Arai:



With respect to claim 3, the shield forms a physical barrier between the oiling roller 6a and the metering blade 5a as shown above.

With respect to claim 4, the shield is used for scooping up and saving material 8 that is scraped off of oiling roller 6a. The shield would have to have a longitudinal length of the oiling roller in order to effectively collect and save the material 8 from the entire length of the oiling roller 6a.

With respect to claim 5, as shown above, the horizontal portion of the shield is on contact with the oiling roller 6a at its right end.

With respect to claim 9, the shield partially encases the oiling roller 6a as shown in the above Figure.

With respect to claim 10, the shield generally “L” shape as shown above.

With respect to claim 15, in paragraph [0025] of the machine translation of Arai, Arai discloses that the material 8 is a release agent because it has a weak adhesion force to a roller.

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With respect to claim 18, Arai discloses a method for reducing ink transfer to an oiling roller in a drum maintenance unit including the step of providing a shield as shown in the Figure above between the oiling roller 6a and the metering blade 5a.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 2, 6, 7, 8, 11-14, 16, 17, 19 and 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

5. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Claim 2 has been indicated as containing allowable subject matter primarily for the shield's capability to reduce electrostatic field build up when the drum maintenance unit is installed in a media device.

Claims 6-7 have been indicated as containing allowable subject matter primarily for the shield being electrically grounded.

Claim 8 has been indicated as containing allowable subject matter primarily for the shield comprising a conductive material.

Claim 11 has been indicated as containing allowable subject matter primarily for the end of the shield being bent toward the oiling roller.

Claims 12-14 and 16 have been indicated as containing allowable subject matter primarily for the filter.

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Claim 17 has been indicated as containing allowable subject matter primarily for the upper portion of the shield being in contact with the oiling roller.

Claim 19 has been indicated as containing allowable subject matter primarily for the step of electrically grounding the shield.

Claim 20 has been indicated as containing allowable subject matter primarily for the step of contacting the oiling roller with the shield to reduce an electrostatic charge on the oiling roller.

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Sato et al. and Shigeta et al. are cited to show other examples of drum maintenance units. Moriya et al. is cited to show an example of a maintenance unit used with a cleaning device and a shield. Bui et al. is cited as an example of ink jet transfer printing.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel J. Colilla whose telephone number is 571-272-2157. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Hirshfeld can be reached on 571-272-2168. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

June 22, 2005



Daniel J. Colilla
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2854